



Target Language

Describing the weather

1. It's warm / hot.
2. It's cold.
3. It's sunny.
4. It's windy.
5. It's foggy.
6. It's icy.
7. It's raining.
8. It's snowing.
9. It's cloudy.

Extra vocabulary

- It's boiling / scorching.
- It's chilly / bitter.
- It's clear / bright.
- It's blowing a gale. / There's a hurricane / tornado.
- There's poor visibility.
- It's freezing.
- It's pouring. / There's thunder and lightning.
- It's a blizzard.
- It's overcast / dull.

Football phrases: Weather

- What's the weather like?
- What's the forecast for the match?
- What are the match conditions?
- Do you think the referee will postpone the match?

Using the pictures

1 Vocabulary: Who is it?

Level: Beginner to elementary.

Preparation: Photocopy the pictures and make mini flashcards, enough so that you have a weather card for each student.

In class: Put nine students into a line in front of the class. Give each student a card. They look at it. They then hold the card in front of them with the picture facing outwards. All students turn away from you. Then call out, *It's cloudy*. The student(s) who have the cloudy card should turn around and face you – showing the card. Keep the game moving quickly.



2 Vocabulary: **Mime it!**

Level: Beginner to elementary.

Preparation: Make sure you have enough space in the class to do this activity. If you choose to do this activity in pairs, photocopy the pictures and make mini flashcards, enough for each pair. Use card numbers 1–8 only.

In class: Ask students to stand up and come to the space at the front. Say a sentence with a type of weather.

Example:

Teacher: *The weather at Wembley Stadium's foggy.*

Students mime playing football in foggy weather. Then students say a similar sentence using a different type of weather. They can use the name of their favourite and / or national stadium.

Variation: Divide students into pairs. Student A picks a card. He / She must not show Student B. Student A mimes playing football in that weather. Student B guesses the weather. When he / she guesses correctly, Student B picks a card and mimes the weather.

3 Listening: **Weather wear**

Level: Beginner to elementary.

Preparation: Photocopy and ideally enlarge the pictures to make flashcards. Stick them on the walls around the classroom.

In class: Tell students they are going to watch a match. Tell them what to take or wear (see 1–6 below). Students walk to or point to the correct card(s), saying the weather. (Suggested answers in brackets.)

1. *Take an umbrella.* (card 7)
2. *Wear a scarf.* (card 2, 6, 8)
3. *Take a bottle of water.* (card 1, 3)
4. *Don't forget your sunglasses.* (card 1, 3)
5. *Wear an anorak.* (card 7)
6. *Take some sun cream.* (card 1, 3)

Extension: For this activity, each pair will need a set of mini flashcards. Divide students into pairs. Student A is 'Mum' and Student B is going to the match.

Example:

Student B: *Bye, Mum. See you later!*

Student A: *[Takes a card] Wait.*

- *It's raining. Take an umbrella.*
- *It's cold / sunny. Wear a hat.*
- *It's snowing / cold. Wear a scarf.*
- *It's sunny. Don't forget your sunglasses.*
- *It's raining. Wear an anorak.*

Variation: For more advanced students, students should use language for suggestion or advice:

Example:

- *Why don't you take an umbrella with you? It's going to rain later.*
- *You ought to take a hat with you. The sun's strong.*
- *You should take a scarf. It's going to get chilly later.*
- *You'd better take an anorak, or you'll get soaked!*

4 Listening: **Weather match**

Level: Elementary to intermediate.

Preparation: Make sure students have a set of all nine weather pictures for groups of three to four students.

In class: Say these descriptions to students. Ask students to point to or hold up the correct flashcard(s):

1. *It's 35 degrees. The players need a drink!*
2. *The players can't see each other.*
3. *The goalkeeper can't see. The sun's in his eyes.*
4. *The players are getting sunburn!*
5. *Look. The players are all wearing gloves.*

Variation: For intermediate to advanced levels, do the following. Your star player is complaining. He doesn't like the weather. Read what he says. Ask students to hold up or point to the correct weather card for each sentence. (Suggested answers in brackets.)

Example:

1. *I can't play in this! I'm getting soaked! (card 7)*
2. *I can't play in this! It's like an ice rink! (card 6)*
3. *I'm frozen! Can somebody get my gloves, please? (card 6, 8)*
4. *This is ridiculous. It was only a bit misty when we started. (card 5)*
5. *I can't play in this. My hair's getting in my eyes.
Can you get me a hair band? (card 4)*

5 Vocabulary builder: **Adjective-weather collocations**

Level: Intermediate to upper-intermediate.

Preparation: Photocopy and give your students this table.

In class: Students tick ✓ the adjectives that can go with the weather words:

	heavy	strong	thick	boiling	light	weak	freezing
sun							
rain							
snow							
ice							
hot							
cold							
cloud							
wind							



Internet: Extra Time ▶

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